

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A yoke-and-shaft coupling structure comprising:
a yoke including a shaft coupling portion which has a U-shaped end face; and
a shaft to be inserted into inside of the shaft coupling portion through a U-shaped opening portion,

wherein the shaft coupling portion includes one of a fixed projecting portion and a recessed portion to be used for ~~inserting and~~ positioning the shaft in an axial direction when the shaft is moved into the inside of the shaft coupling portion, and

the shaft includes one of a groove portion to which the projecting portion is to be inserted and a salient portion to be inserted into the recessed portion when the shaft is inserted into the inside of the shaft coupling portion.

2. (Withdrawn) A yoke-and-shaft coupling structure comprising:
a yoke including a shaft coupling portion which has a U-shaped end face;
a covering member, which is attached to the yoke, for covering the shaft coupling portion; and
a shaft to be inserted into inside of the shaft coupling portion through a U-shaped opening portion,

wherein the covering member includes a salient tongue, which projects inwardly from a periphery of the end face of the shaft coupling portion, to be used for positioning the shaft, and

the shaft includes a groove portion to which the salient tongue is to be inserted when the shaft is inserted into the inside of the shaft coupling portion.

3. (Withdrawn) The yoke-and-shaft coupling structure according to Claim 2, wherein the covering member further includes a press tongue for pressing the shaft inserted into the inside of the shaft coupling portion in a shaft insertion direction.

4. (Withdrawn) The yoke-and-shaft coupling structure according to Claim 3, wherein the shaft coupling portion has, on an inner face thereof, a rectangular recessed portion which can house the press tongue.

5. (Withdrawn) The yoke-and-shaft coupling structure according to Claim 3, wherein the covering member includes a plurality of press tongues.

6. (Withdrawn) The yoke-and-shaft coupling structure according to Claim 3, wherein the shaft has, at one end thereof, side faces parallel to each other and a top face composed of two inclined planes being inclined with respect to a plane which is parallel to an axis of the shaft and is perpendicular to the side faces, the inclined planes being joined to each other at an axial center of the top face, so that the shaft can be engaged with the press tongue.

7. (Withdrawn) The yoke-and-shaft coupling structure according to Claim 2, wherein the covering member is made of an elastic material.

8. (Withdrawn) The yoke-and-shaft coupling structure according to Claim 2, wherein a width of the groove portion in an axial direction is at least six times as large as a thickness of the salient tongue.

9. (Withdrawn) The yoke-and-shaft coupling structure according to Claim 2, wherein the groove portion is deep enough to prevent the groove portion and the salient tongue from hitting against each other when the salient tongue is inserted into the groove portion.